



3rd Marine Division holds a truck rodeo. See story, Page 13.

February 11, 2000

Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan

<http://okinawa.mcbbutler.usmc.mil>



LANCE CPL. ZACHARY A. CRAWFORD

Its a dog's life ...

Private Rocky, mascot for Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron-1, lies ready in the prone position, standing guard for Lt. Col. Donald K. Hansen, commanding officer, MWHS-1, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing at his designated post in front of the barber shop in Building 1. Rocky has only with been with his new unit for a couple of weeks; however, the new private is permanently assigned to Lt. Col. Hansen, and is TAD to fill the billet as the unit's mascot.

Alcohol sales in bars: not after midnight

Consolidated Public Affairs Office

At midnight, according to Japanese law, bar owners are required to close their doors, admit no more customers, and stop selling alcohol.

This law is not new, but what is new is that Marines and Sailors can expect to see local police enforcing it in bars, discos and nightclubs where they may not have done so in the past.

What that means is if Marines or Sailors are in a bar that is selling alcohol after legal hours, they can be considered witnesses to a violation of the law. If police enter a bar and the law is being violated, the owner may lose his operating license. Marines or Sailors who are in the bar at that time have not violated the law, but police may require information from them as potential witnesses. Marines and Sailors must cooperate fully with the police if they are questioned.

"When a bar closes its doors at midnight but continues to serve alcohol after legal operating hours, Marines and Sailors should leave the premises, because they're contributing to a bar owner violating the law. And while it's the bar owner who's violating the law, he couldn't do it if he didn't have customers," advises Sgt. Maj. Harry E. Brown, sergeant major, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler. "It reflects poorly on the Marine's judgment if he puts himself in that situation."

If a Marine or Sailor is in a bar where alcohol is being served illegally, and the police arrive, he or she must remember to cooperate fully with the police and comply with their instructions.

Most liberty incidents in town occur after midnight and are alcohol related. As good neighbors, Marines and Sailors can prevent these incidents by respecting host nation law and being part of a solution — not part of a problem.

Base Commanding General's guidance

If you are in a bar or club and midnight is approaching ...

1. At midnight, finish your drinks and leave the bar. Respect host nation law — don't enter a bar or buy a drink after midnight.
2. Use safe means to go back to base. If you are not ready to end your evening, base clubs are still open.
3. If you are in an Okinawan bar after midnight and police enter, remain calm. You have not violated the law by being there.
4. If you are approached by local police and questioned, remember to cooperate fully and comply with their instructions.

Future Marine Corps presents growth, challenge

An open letter from Lieutenant General Frank Libutti, Commander, Marine Forces Pacific, to all MARFORPAC first-term Marines approaching the expiration of their current contracts.

Marines,

The Marine Corps is challenged with re-enlisting a higher percentage of first-term Marines this fiscal year than we have ever needed to re-enlist before. There are many complicated reasons why this is so — the bottom line is, the future of our enlisted force structure, promotions and assignment opportunities depend on our meeting our first-term re-enlistment requirements this year.

So, what does this mean to you? Understandably, you are concerned about your situation and your future. As your Commander, I ask that you do one thing when contemplating that future. Go somewhere quiet, where you

won't be disturbed, and ask yourself, "Why did I join the Corps?" Could it have been:

- To see if you had what it takes. Few are good enough to earn the title, "Marine."
- To do something you knew you could be proud of...something to earn the respect of your family and friends.
- To strike out on your own...to do something challenging where you held your success or failure in your own hands.

There are many reasons young men and women choose to become Marines. If your reasons were among the above, you have accomplished those goals. So where do you go from here? Have you thought about new, greater challenges and goals for yourself? As Marines progress in rank, responsibilities and challenges also become greater. A Marine's first enlistment instills the

fundamental qualities of *Leadership, Initiative, Courage, Poise, Self-Confidence, Self-Reliance, Self-Direction, Self-Discipline*. Second and subsequent enlistments hone those qualities into razor sharp tools that will enable you to go anywhere and do anything.

There are many incentives for re-enlisting. Some are tangible and some are not. There are many ways to pursue a higher education while you are on active duty, continuing to draw full pay and allowances. The 4.8 percent pay raise we received on Jan. 1 was the largest military pay raise in 18 years. Marines don't stay for the paycheck, though — Marines stay for the same reasons they became Marines in the first place.

The choice is ultimately your own. Your decision to stay Marine will benefit you and strengthen our Corps. But whatever path you choose, never forget, you are a Marine forever. Semper Fi!

Report off-base traffic violations at 645-3423/3887/7441/7442

Updated training on homosexual conduct policy

By Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs)

WASHINGTON — Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen announced today that he has received and approved each of the military services’ updated training plans on the Department’s homosexual conduct policy.

The updated plans incorporate the guidelines for investigating threats against or harassment of servicemembers based on perceived or alleged homosexuality.

“I am very pleased with the effort that went into updating the services’ training materials. These plans make it very clear to recruits, servicemembers, and to law enforcement personnel, commanders, judge advocates, and investigators that are

charged with implementing the policy, that there is no room for harassment or threats in the military.”

The secretary also noted that he had directed the Defense Department Inspector General to conduct an assessment of the environment at representative installations within each department with respect to the application of the homosexual conduct policy.

He said that, as part of that assessment, the Inspector General would review the

extent to which harassment may occur and the extent to which disparaging speech or expression with respect to sexual orientation is tolerated.

Secretary Cohen said, “I will receive the results of that review by March 13 and make a judgment as to whether any additional actions may be needed.” He emphasized that “servicemembers need to understand that harassment for any reason will not be tolerated and commanders will take prompt, appropriate action against individuals involved in such

behavior.”

The services’ plans also included implementing guidance that required the following actions:

1. Inspectors general will include as an item of specific interest in their inspections the training of those charged with application and enforcement of the homosexual conduct policy.
2. Installation staff judge advocates will consult with senior legal officers prior to the initiation of an investigation into alleged homosexual conduct.
3. Military Department secretarial-level approval will be obtained prior to the initiation of any substantial investigation into whether a servicemember made a statement regarding his or her homosexuality for the purpose of seeking separation.

“Servicemembers need to understand that harassment for any reason will not be tolerated ...”

William S. Cohen
Secretary of Defense



LANCE CPL. CHAD C. ADAMS

Construction workers begin clearing the former Kishaba Golf Driving Range where two 68-unit housing towers will be built.

Construction of two 68-unit towers begins at former driving range site

Lance Cpl. Chad Adams

Combat Correspondent

CAMPFOSTER — Two 68-unit housing towers are being constructed at the former Kishaba Golf Driving Range adjacent to Building 1.

The new apartments are being built in preparation for the planned 2008 return of Camp Lester to the Government of Japan.

“It’s the first stage of this consolidation of the housing,” said Philip S. Kimball, community planner, Facilities Engineer.

Three construction sites are part of the relocation program that further enables the Marine Corps to meet their goal of turning over Camp Lester to the GOJ.

When the Camp Lester facilities have been relocated and the housing consolidation is complete, a much more convenient military community will be available for personnel accompanied by their families. The housing units will be located close to shopping and other support ser-

vices.

Furthermore, many servicemembers and their families will have the luxury of living in a brand new home.

“Each one of the projects is a brand new facility,” Kimball said. “They’re going to be a lot better. You get a much better, updated facility.”

With the addition of 1,777 housing units on Camp Foster, approximately 300 acres of land will be released to the GOJ when all of the consolidation and relocation is completed.

Several other dig sites are visible around the camp. These cultural dig sites comply with Japanese law, ensuring that artifacts of cultural significance aren’t destroyed during construction.

“Every project on Camp Foster has to be tested for cultural assets,” said Navy Lt. Renee L. Woodworth, planning officer, Facilities Engineers. “If something is found, they will either relocate the project or do a dig and remove the cultural assets.”

AWS, CSC graduate 14

Ten Marines graduated from the Amphibious Warfare School, and four Marines graduated from the Command Staff Course Feb. 4 at Building 1 as friends, family and peers watched on.

The two courses began in October 1998 and ended in December 1999, according to James P. Hopkins, regional coordinator, Marine Corps University. The AWS course consisted of 375 study hours and was completed in 15 months.

The CSC consisted of 275 study hours and is designed to take 24 months to complete. The graduating class finished the course in one year.

The AWS course was the first of its kind to be conducted in the West Pacific region. The courses were taught with the use of instructive seminars and individual study.

“The courses are viewed by headquarters Marine Corps as being equivalent to the resident courses,” said Hopkins.



SGT. NATHANIEL T. GARCIA



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3/12 arrives at Hijudai Training Area

Lance Cpl. Lea A. Atkins

Combat Correspondent

HIJUDAI, JAPAN — More than 200 Marines and Sailors from the 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines, arrived here at the Hijudai Training Area, for a live-fire training exercise Jan. 18.

“We hope to accomplish many aspects of the training,” said Captain Kurt S. Osuch, commanding officer, Battery A, 3/12. “Focusing on the development of individual and crew skills will enhance the battery’s ability to carry out its combat mission.”

Permanently stationed in Hawaii, the climatic conditions will be much different than 3/12’s usual training environment.

“The new environment will be challenging for the Marines,” said Osuch.

During their time on mainland Japan, the Marines and Sailors will have opportunities to interact with the local community, along with the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force and the Fukuoka Defense Facilities Administration Bureau.

Seven community relations projects are scheduled for the Marines and Sailors.

“The majority of the projects will be held at local orphanages, a nursing home and a home for physically-handicapped children,” said Lt. Col. David A. Kelley Jr., commanding officer, 3/12. “These projects give the Marines and Sailors the opportunity to give something to the lo-



2ND LT. CARL B. REDDING JR.

Fukuoka Defense Facilities Administration Bureau personnel welcome A Battery, 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines to the Hijudai Training Area Jan. 18.

cal community, as well as allow the community to see what the Marines and Sailors are really like.”

The deployment has generated positive

reactions from the Marines of 3/12, according to Osuch,

“The Marines are excited,” said Osuch. “They are extremely enthusiastic anti-

pating the upcoming training.”

The Marines of 3/12 are scheduled to arrive back on Okinawa at the end of February.

PCS options for your pets

Sgt. Nathaniel T. Garcia

Combat Correspondent

KADENA AIR BASE — It is definitely raining cats and dogs at Kadena’s Karing Kennels.

Karing Kennels provides temporary shelter for cats and dogs until they can be placed in a new home. The kennel is the only one available to servicemembers, SOFA status personnel and their families.

During June 1999, 70 animals from Karing Kennels were put to sleep, with only 24 adopted. In November, 36 dogs were put to sleep, 43 dogs were adopted, and 39 cats were adopted.

The high number of animals turned in last June were caused by military personnel permanently changing stations during those summer months, said Deborah A. Clark, assistant manager, Karing Kennels.

According to Clark, people don’t always want to deal with bringing a pet back to the United States, so they either abandon or leave the animal to the kennel. Pets should not be adopted unless owners are going to take them back to the United States.

Strays or pets left behind can be brought to the kennel, but it will cost \$10 for their food. The animals are

normally held for a week, sometimes longer, before they are put to sleep.

“The hardest part of working here is working with the strays and abandoned,” said Clark. “It’s hard getting attached to an animal and then having to watch it be put to sleep.”

In addition to receiving abandoned pets, the kennel provides boarding services for animals whose owners are going on vacation. Only SOFA status personnel and family can take their animals to the kennel for boarding. The prices for boarding vary depending on the number of animals, number of days and whether it is a dog or cat.

Boarding during the holidays should be made in advance. Those wanting to drop off strays should call first to make sure space is available. If the kennel is too full, they will not be able to hold the animal.

All active duty service members, families, Department of Defense employees, and Okinawans can adopt a pet for their home. However, only Okinawans can adopt a pet without first visiting the veterinary clinic.

For any active duty member there is an initial application fee for adopting an animal. For dogs it is \$30, and \$20 for cats. Before the animal can be taken, it must



CPL. ABIGAIL L. LABIN

Lost or stray dogs and cats are kept at Kadena’s Karing Kennel and await a family to adopt them.

be cleared by the veterinary clinic. If the animal is current with all shots, the animal can be taken without additional cost.

Anyone looking to adopt an animal or board their pets should call 632-4062.

New procedure for submitting DoDDS applications

Lance Cpl. Pete Voss

Combat Correspondent

CAMP FOSTER — Beginning April 1, military spouses with previous teaching experience will find it easier to apply for a job within the Department of Defense Dependents Schools.

Applicants must submit forms to Department of Defense Education Agency Headquarters where they are reviewed,

according to Leonard Bransford, personnel chief, Pacific DoDEA.

Before applicants can be considered to teach overseas, they must complete a required number of educational and subject matter coursework, the National Teachers Exam, the Professional Knowledge component and either the Communication Skills or Pre-Professional skills component.

To make it easier to be accepted as a

DoDDS teacher, a valid state teaching certificate and a state competency test instead of the NTE may be submitted and the competency test requirements would be eliminated for applicants with seven or more years of successful teaching experience.

“If a person has successful performance ratings for seven years, that is sufficient evidence that they can perform on the job,” said Ray Tolleson, director of

the DoDEA.

Tolleson said he met many spouses in meetings held overseas, who were qualified teachers, but were unable to find work under the agency’s requirements.

“This change establishes reciprocity with the States, and aligns our practices with the nation’s practices,” said Bransford.

For more information, visit the DoDEA website at www.dodea.osd.mil.

Alcohol-related NJPs III MEF/MCBJ

The *Okinawa Marine*, in accordance with the III MEF/MCBJ Liberty Campaign Plan, now publishes the following alcohol-related nonjudicial punishments for Jan. 30 - Feb. 5.

- Underage drinking

A private first class with 3rd Transportation Support Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group, was found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$263 for one month, and restriction and extra duties for 14 days.

- Underage drinking

A lance corporal with Marine Expeditionary Unit Service Support Group-31, 3rd FSSG, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$585 for two months, and restriction and extra duties for 30 days.

- Underage drinking

A lance corporal with 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd FSSG, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$237 for one month, and restriction and extra duties for 14 days.

- Underage drinking

A private first class with Combat Assault Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, was found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: restriction and extra duties for 14 days.

- Drinking while on liberty risk

A lance corporal with CAB, 3rd MarDiv., was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of Breaking and drinking while on liberty risk. Punishment: reduction to E-2 and restriction for 60 days.

- DUI

A staff sergeant with 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines, 3rd MarDiv., was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of DUI. Punishment: forfeiture of \$1,053 for two months and a letter of reprimand.



LANCE CPL. ZACHARY A. CRAWFORD

MLCs receive Certificates of Commendation

Brigadier Gen. Gary H. Hughey, commanding general, Marine Corps Base, recently presented Certificates of Commendation to Staff Judge Advocate employees Kozue Mekaru (left), legal systems specialist; Kiyoko Gisuji (second from right), administrative specialist and Hiroshi Izumi, legal advisor. The awards were given for their outstanding work on recent assignments and their daily performance of duty.

Book donations needed

The University of Oklahoma will be collecting good condition textbooks and non-fiction books to be donated to the University of Ryukyus Library. Adult and child fiction will be gladly accepted and donated to the Urasoe City Library and a local Japanese daycare. Look for collection boxes in your base library and education centers throughout February.

For more information, contact the local OU office at 634-1606.

President's Day volleyball

Come join the fun Feb. 21 from noon to 4 p.m. at the Schwab USO. There will be a 3 on 3 Volleyball Challenge and other games to participate in. Enjoy free food, prize giveaways and DJ music. This event is free and open to all SOFA status personnel and their guests.

For more information, call USO Marketing Department at 633-4510.

Children's Dental Health Month

In celebration of Children's Dental Health Month, a dental health fair is scheduled for Feb. 19 outside the Foster Main Exchange. Activities at the fair will include an information booth, mobile dental van tours, dental screenings for eligible children, and announcement of the poster/essay contest winners. Entry forms for the contest will be distributed at schools and can be obtained from Naval Dental Clinics.

For more information, contact Evans, Bush or Kinser Naval Dental Clinics.

Lester Middle School Spring Fling

Lester Middle School's first Spring Fling is scheduled for tomorrow from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event features Middle Eastern crafts, a Tupperware booth and a fashion show.

For more information, call 645-7787.

Troy State registration

Troy State University will begin registration for Term IV, 2000, Feb. 14 - 25. TSU offers Master of Science programs in management, international relations, public administration, and foundations of education.

For more information, call Elizabeth or Stephanie at 634-3930.

Paintball tournament

Paintball is an exciting, fun sport. Playing paintball gives you the chance to shake off your day-to-day responsibilities and rekindle your spirit of adventure. When

the adrenaline starts pumping, you can't help but love the thrill of the game. Come join in the fun with this five person speedball tournament played in round-robin format. This event will be held Feb. 20. Gates open 7-8 a.m. only. There will be a rules briefing at 8 a.m. and games begin at 9 a.m.

A maximum of 16 teams will be accepted for this event. Registration must be completed by Tuesday at Kadena Outdoor Recreation. Tournament fee is \$20 per player, or with semi gun rental, \$30 per player.

Free hot dogs/beverages and t-shirts will be available for participants. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation at 634-3689.

School bus office relocation

The Okinawa School Bus Office has been relocated. The new facility is Building 5821 on Camp Foster, located on 6th Marine Division Rd. All bus monitors are requested to report to the new facility.

For more information, call 645-2036/7820.

Korean furniture sale

There will be a Korean furniture sale sponsored by the Kubasaki High School Senior Class of 2000. Proceeds benefit the "Project Graduation" and Varsity Soccer Team. The sale is Feb. 26 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Feb 27 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Bechtel Elementary School Gym, Camp McTureous. Your support will help give seniors a safe, fun and memorable graduation. For more information, call Mark at 645-3614.

Support, referee, play soccer

If you are 16-years-old or older, and are interested in playing, refereeing or supporting soccer on Okinawa, contact Barnes at 622-5237, Sam at sam10ref@konnnect.net, Conrad on Kadena at conrad.marshall@kadena.af.mil, or for the women's league, contact Amy at mccambridgeae@mcbbutler.usmc.mil.

To submit a brief ...

The Okinawa Marine accepts briefs for non-profit organizations and groups only. Briefs are run on space-available and time-priority basis. Deadline for briefs is noon Friday. The Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit to fit space. Submit briefs by faxing to 645-3803, or send an e-mail to angusrj@mcbbutler.usmc.mil.

Community Briefs

Valentine's dance

The Hispanic Heritage Association on Okinawa is hosting a Valentine's/Anniversary Celebration at the Coral Cove, Torii Station tonight from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tickets are \$5 per person and can be purchased at the door. Dress to impress.

For more information, call HM1 Veguilla at 933-3462 or Mr. Soto at 646-6076.

National Prayer Breakfast

This year's National Prayer Breakfast will be held March 2, at 6:30 a.m. at the Rocker NCO Club on Kadena. Guest speaker for this event is Maj. Gen. William J. Dendinger, chief of chaplain service.

Chaplain Dendinger will be speaking on "Becoming a Hero."

Ticket cost is \$5 per person For more information, call 634-1288.

Commissary closing

The Camp Courtney commissary will conduct its annual formal inventory and will be closed Monday and Tuesday.

Squashing rumor mill takes leadership

In the Marine Corps, we have a saying that nothing is ever as bad as the first reports would have you believe. Our Commanding General, Lt. Gen. Frank Libutti, says this to me time and time again and in each case, he has been absolutely right. Nothing has ever been as bad as it was first portrayed. It is that concept of not jumping to conclusions from the first reports that you receive nor taking part in spreading false or misleading rumors that I would like to talk about.

One of the best examples I can give you about things not turning out as bad as they were first portrayed is the recent flap about Y2K. For the last year or more, all of us have been hearing and seeing people running around with their hair on fire telling anyone and everyone who would listen to them how the world was going to go up in smoke on Jan. 1, 2000, and what happened? Absolutely nothing. The clock struck midnight, people hugged each other, had a drink, and life went on just like it al-

ways has, didn't it?

As ridiculous as this whole Y2K scam was, you know what the real scary thing was? The real tragedy of the Y2K boondoggle was that some people actually believed all this bull passed around by rumor and were scared to death the world was going to end on New Year's Eve.

The point I am trying to make here is that rumors and half-truths about Y2K were mixed with facts until it was hard to separate the truth from fiction. People, who really should have known better, got caught up in the frenzy until the ball was rolling so fast it could not be stopped.

And just as crazy as the Y2K rumors started to get, the same thing happens when you take part in ugly rumors about a fellow Marine, a unit or a companion.

When you hear something that just does not seem right to you, or someone is running around telling your Marines the world is going to end or whatever, you should step up and quash these types of falsehoods and half-

truths on the spot. It is here where you as leaders reassure your Marines that things are never as bad as they may first seem. When you hear rumors or reports of something that just does not sound right, you have a moral and ethical obligation to get the true facts about what is being said and set the matter straight. You have an obligation to your Marines not to be part of any rumor mill, whether that report be about anthrax shots, Y2K or someone's professional reputation.

Remember, nothing is ever as bad as first reported. Y2K has proven that. Take care of your Marines and get the facts before you shoot your mouth off and never allow yourself to take part in rumors. It is un-Marine-like to do so. Marines just don't do things like that. Take care of our Corps and each other.

SgtMaj. Robert W. Holub
SgtMaj. Marine Forces Pacific

What is unconditional love?



On Valentine's Day many people exchange cards, boxes of candy and sweet greetings. It is a day to be a little more romantic for married couples and dating singles. A day that asks each of us to reflect on the word "love." We use this word very often in our daily speech. I love to go to the movies, I love ice cream and on and on. Has the word "love" lost its original meaning? Do we need to step back on this Valentine's Day and ask, "What is love?"

Many families today are under a lot of economic pressures. In two parent households, it is very common that mom and dad are both holding down full-time jobs. There is added stress put on family life and all that has to be done at home: cooking, cleaning, laundry and taking out the garbage. With both parents working, their kids are asked to help pitch in and share the load. In one family there was a brother and sister who were asked by their mother to help out and set the table for dinner. Their mom had to work late and needed this extra chore to be done before she returned home after a long day at the office. When she arrived home, she found the table set just as she asked, but was very surprised to find a note attached to her place setting. Dear Mom, "Janet and I expect to be paid for doing these extra chores around here. It's not our job. How would ten dollars a week added to our allowance sound?" signed your son Bobby. She was very upset by this note. "What kind of kids am I raising?" They are still young enough to learn that we must all make sacrifices for each other, not for money or for

recognition, but out of love!

The kids were watching TV and didn't notice that their mom had returned from work. Before she served dinner, she took a 20-foot length of brown wrapping paper and started writing from the top of the piece of paper all the way down to the bottom. She wrote, "My dear children, for the nine months that I was pregnant with each of you, for all the sleepless nights, for the times I took you to special school and sporting events, for the times I tucked you into bed ... and the list went on and on, all the way down to the bottom of the paper. At the bottom of the sheet she concluded with the following words, "for all of these activities, above and beyond what I had to do, I attach the following itemized bill: Final Cost = NOTHING, I did all these things because I love you!"

Many of the cards we will receive will have a perfectly shaped heart on them. If we ever look at the human heart, it is far from a perfect shape. It seems to be missing a piece here and there. We have a lifetime to reshape it by acts of unconditional love. May this Valentine's Day remind us to be more generous, giving, understanding, appreciative of others and loving.

There have been people in our lives, in the public sector and in our own religious faiths who inspire us to live out unconditional love.

In the Christian tradition, St. Augustine, a great theologian and teacher wrote, "Our hearts are restless until they rest in thee O Lord." We are restless. A piece of our hearts is missing. We all have a longing for love. God will give us each the grace and strength to reshape our own hearts and those of our families. May the peace, joy and love of God rebuild our hearts and in turn may we share that gift with others on Valentine's Day and every day. God Loves You!

Navy Lt. Robert J. Coyle
Combat Assault Battalion, 3rd Marine Division

STREET TALK

"Who is your special Valentine?"



Pfc. Alvin D.
Pieper, H&S
Bn., MCB

"My wife because even with 5,000 miles between us, my days begin and end with her."



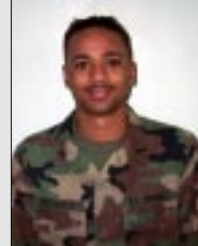
Lance Cpl.
Michelle J.
Andrus, H&S
Bn., MCB

"My husband John because he is my mister wonderful"



Pfc. J. W.
Gwartney,
PMO, MCB

"My grandma because she made me chocolate fudge for Christmas."



Lance Cpl.
Erven
McSwain, H&S
Bn., MCB

"This one goes out to the special woman out there. She knows who she is."

War dogs remembered

Cpl. E. M. Thorne

31st MEU Public Affairs

COMNAVMAR, Guam — On July 22, 1944 during the battle of Fonte Platteau, a black doberman named Kurt was scouting at the front line when he discovered a Japanese defense line outpost. The battle that ensued was one of battalion strength involving approximately 800 Marines and hundreds of Japanese soldiers.

Kurt was hit by mortar fire that opened a mortal wound in his back exposing his spinal cord. Kurt's wounds were too severe and, at 3 a.m. on July 23, 1944, as machinegun fire cracked overhead, Kurt stopped breathing. Kurt thus became the first War Dog casualty on Guamanian territory.

Approximately 250 Marines from the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), based in Okinawa, Japan are here this month for Training in an Urban Environment Exercise (TRUEX). They were allowed to see the culture and history Guam had to offer.

Guam, running deep with military history as one of the key major offensives during U.S. Marines Corps' island hopping campaign of World War Two (WWII), set the stage and gave some of these Marines the opportunity to see and experience Guam's rich history.

Ever since receiving the nickname 'Devil Dog' from the Germans at Belleau Wood, Marines have been barking and grunting. While conducting training here in Guam the Marines had an opportunity to see the War Dog memorial, a tribute to some actual war dogs who lost their lives in the line of duty.

Four hundred and sixty-five dogs were shipped overseas and served in Guam, Saipan, Iwo Jima and Okinawa. After initial confrontations with the Japanese in the Pacific, the Marine Corps realized they would be fighting a far different type of war than they were used to. The Corps

suffered heavy losses, particularly in the Battle of Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands in 1942. The thick jungle overgrowth and numerous cave hideouts allowed the Japanese opportunities to ambush Marine patrols. The best means of preventing casualties was to train war dogs who could apply their superior senses of smell and hearing to alert them against potential ambush. The dogs led more than 450 patrols in the Pacific and were never ambushed.

At the end of WWII, the U.S. government repatriated the bodies of the fallen Marines from the battlefield cemetery back to their families in the United States. However, the fallen war dogs remained behind in their original graves in the Asan Beach rice paddy.

The battle to liberate Guam from the Japanese began on July 21, 1944 and lasted until August 10. In those 21 days of fierce conflict, American Marines, Navy and Army casualties exceeded 7,000 with more than 1,900 killed in action. An estimated 18,500 Japanese were killed while another 8,000 remained hidden in the jungle refusing to surrender.

Captain William W. Putney, commanding officer, Third War Dog Platoon and chief veterinarian, trained these canine recruits in Devil Dog "boot camp" at Camp Lejeune, N.C. Putney never forgot the heroism of his charges and has devoted more than 50 years to preserving their memory. Putney's dream came true on July 20, 1994 when then Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Carl E. Mundy Jr., fellow Marine and Army generals, Navy admirals and other senior military, federal and local government officials came together in the midst of a tropical downpour to dedicate a memorial cemetery and bronze statue to the memory of the 25 canine heroes of Guam. The Marine Corps has adopted the site as an official cemetery for these fallen Marines and 25 headstones have been placed around the statue. Twenty-four of the stones have



CPL. E. M. THORNE

Seaman Apprentice Marlon A. Avila, religious program specialist, 31st MEU, reaches for Kurt's collar which reads "Always Faithful".

the name of one fallen dog who was buried on Guam, and one headstone dedicated to a dog buried at sea.

"They saved a lot of lives including my own," Putney said. "May they rest in peace forever."

The memorial where a life size statue of Kurt solemnly stands watch in the alert position is a dedication in their memory. The collar around Kurt's neck bears the inscription "always faithful" to remind everyone of their undying devotion.

Marines make first jump from tilt-rotar aircraft

Gidge Dady

NAVAIR

NAVAL AIR STATION, PATUXENT RIVER, MD — Marine jumpers and the V-22 Osprey teamed up in January for the first ever parachute operation from a tilt-rotor aircraft.

Marines from the 2nd Reconnaissance Battalion, Camp Lejeune N.C., jumped into the history books of V-22 developmental testing as the first personnel to deploy from a MV-22 in free fall from 10,000 ft.

The Marines, who are experienced static line and free fall jumpers, made 24 jumps from engineering, manufacturing and development aircraft number 10. "We flew at 120 knots in the conversion mode and it was a pretty spectacular site to see these parachute operations," said Bill Leonard, one of the V-22 development test pilots. "The aircraft handled well and, with the inertial navigation system, the jumpers were able to assess the dynamics of leaving the aircraft and returning to the same drop zone on another jump.

The jumpers also were pleased with the V-22's ability to get them into the desired zone and the access to getting on and off the aircraft," said Leonard.

The V-22 integrated government/contractor test team here conducted the developmental flight tests to deter-



VERNON PUGH

Marines from 2nd Reconnaissance Bn. perform the first tilt-rotar aircraft jump.

mine whether the Osprey is a suitable platform for paraops missions. Under the supervision of senior jumpmasters from the U.S. Army Operational Test Command and the Marine Corps Systems Command, 24 successful jumps were recorded to qualify the V-22 for parachute service, according to Lt. Col. M.G. Mannella, V-22 government flight test director.

The jumpers landed in a surveyed drop zone at nearby

Fort A. P. Hill, VA.

"This site was selected because of its size and proximity to Patuxent River. Also, for military jump operations, the drop zone must be surveyed and safety certified, and there are no drop zones here or at Webster Field that meet this criteria," said Mac Brown, senior V-22 Integrated Test Team (ITT) engineer. The Army is the designated proponent agency for personnel parachute operations from new aircraft and envelope expansion of existing aircraft. They are now in the process of issuing a clearance for free fall operations from the V-22. Prior to deploying jumpers, the V-22 ITT had to collect a series of build-up points to ensure that the V-22 was ready to conduct these tests.

According to Brown, the aircraft was evaluated for operations off the cargo ramp, ability to safely and accurately "spot" the drop zone, and other aircraft characteristics such as cabin size, seating, and internal communications.

"This was a real team effort involving the Marines, Navy, and Army. The V-22 Osprey team thanks everyone for accommodating our test schedule and for participating with such tremendous flexibility and can-do spirit. We not only accomplished our goals, but got to observe 2nd Recon Marines record a flight test "first" in the process," said Lt. Col. Mannella.



Staff Sgt. Scott A. Franklin, Motor Transport Chief, 5th Force Reconnaissance Bn., 3rd MarDiv., measures the distance the Logistic Vehicle System's towed load is from the dock. Points are gained the closer the towed load gets to the dock.

STAFF SGT. MICHAEL MINK



STAFF SGT. MICHAEL MINK

Sgt. Samantha Greer, motor transport platoon sergeant, Headquarters and Service Co., Headquarters Bn., 3rd MarDiv., measures to see how close a competitor came to the painted mark on the concrete. Staff Sgt. Alan Fernandez, operations chief, Service Company, 7th Communications Bn., III Marine Expeditionary Force annotates each competitor's score on their score sheets.

Ain't no ropes in this rodeo

Staff Sgt. Michael T. Mink

Combat Correspondent

CAMP COURTNEY – Twenty-seven 3rd Marine Division Motor Transport Marines participated in a Motor Transport Truck Rodeo at the Headquarters Battalion Motor Pool parking lot here February 3.

The Marines began the event with a written test before hitting the pavement.

"About 80 percent of these Marines here today are straight out of their [military occupational specialty] school," said Master Gunnery Sgt. Donal R. Bell, 3rd MarDiv. Motor Transport chief.

For most of these Marines they are being tested on what they do normally throughout the work day, but with any competition there is added pressure.

"I wasn't nervous when we started out the day," said Sgt. John R. Roland, Headquarters Battery, 12th Marine Regiment. "As the day wore on, the competition level was raised and so did the peer pressure."

The Valdosta, Ga. native added that the simplest of tasks were scrutinized.

The winners will go on to represent 3rd MarDiv. at the III Marine Expeditionary Truck Rodeo on February 15.

Lance Cpl. Richard A. Vasquez came out on top, placing first and received a 96-hour pass to be used at the unit's discretion.

Second place winner, Sgt. George R. Ferguson, received a 72-hour pass also to be used at the unit's discretion.

Third place winner, Sgt. John R. Roland, received a day off to be used at his unit's discretion.

All three Marines have been submitted for Certificates of Commendation from the 3rd MarDiv. commanding general.

"The most important thing the Marines will learn out here is their limitations," said Col. Thomas R. Kelly, 3rd MarDiv. chief of staff. "The rodeo will enable the driver to learn his limitations and the vehicles limitations, which will make him a safer driver when they are on the roads."



STAFF SGT. MICHAEL MINK

Drivers tested their skills on both wet and dry services.

Firefighters train to keep servicemembers safe

Sgt. Nathaniel T. Garcia

Combat Correspondent

CAMP FOSTER — Fire fighters here train constantly to prepare for the unexpected. Fire department duties are broad. In addition to fires, they can handle any medical emergency situations.

The fire department consists of several different units throughout Okinawa. They range from Camp Kinser to Camp Schwab, provide support to Okuma, cover remote Army activities and even have a satellite station on Camp Fuji.

The concentrated support is given to the main housing areas according to Keith McElroy, fire chief, Camp Butler Fire Department, Marine Corps Bases Japan. Housing areas are where the majority of the incidents occur. Within three months, the fire department has responded to seven fires.

“Generally you have more fires where people are living,” said McElroy. “We have had a rash of fires in the last several months due to cooking.”

In order to deal with the possibility of fires, fire fighters train year-round. Train-

ing can include, but is not limited to, fire rescue, rappelling and training with the Naval Hospital, according to Carl C. Willis, assistant chief of operations, Camp Butler Fire Department, Marine Corps Bases Japan.

Before any new fire fighters can start the training with the rest of the department, they must go through a month-long training academy conducted by the fire department.

During the month-long academy, the future fire fighters learn about basic first aid, hydraulics, building construction, ladders, ropes, knots and different strategies for battling a fire.

Once the new fire fighters have been certified by the Department of Defense, the fire fighters receive on the job training.

“They get more involved training,” said Willis. “They have to experience it so they can understand why they do it that way.”

Training enables the fire department to respond to any type of emergency situation within minutes depending on the information provided by the caller. The fire department is comprised of almost 200 firefighters and staff, in addition to a team of Emergency Medical Services personnel provided by Camp Lester Naval Hospital ready to assist in any type of situation.

Emergency Medical Service personnel

allow the fire department to respond quickly to medical emergencies, traffic accidents and personal injuries, according to McElroy. The fire department makes all emergency medical responses.

However, the fire department is unable to respond as quickly if the caller doesn’t know his building. Normally the emergency response team is out of the station within a minute. It may seem slow because there may be a delay to the dispatcher due to the lack of information by the caller. This can slow the process of getting to the situation. Also, calling first before taking action can save time.

“Call first and then take action,” said McElroy. “The tendency is to help or start helping the victim. All that is commendable, but while your doing that no one is calling. So call first, then take some action, that way we can get on the road.”

Even military families living off base are covered by the fire department.

“Our mission is to protect the lives the property of the Marine Corps and to enable the completion of the Marine Corps mission,” said McElroy.

Protecting lives isn’t just done by putting out fires. The fire station participates in fire prevention education to families. They also provide demonstrations to the schools and community relation activities to the local Okinawan community. The fire station provides the first line of defense for families against the unexpected.



CPL. SHARON DAVIS

A fire fighter tightens the straps to his oxygen tank during training.



CPL. SHARON DAVIS

Fire fighters receive instruction on protective gear during an exercise.

Air logistics Marines help keep pilots flying

Lance Cpl. Zachary A. Crawford

Combat Correspondent

MCAS FUTENMA — Marines of Aviation Life Support Systems, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-36 here help save lives by testing, packing, and maintaining safety equipment for pilots and passengers of their squadrons.

Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-36 Marines work specifically with aviation life support systems for various squadrons throughout Marine Air Group-36. They perform safety checks on gear such as life rafts, life preservers and parachutes.

“We are like the last line of defense for the pilots,” said Lance Cpl. Kurt S. Stanich, flight equipment Marine, MALS-36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. “That is an important job, so that is why we pay attention to every little detail.”

Another part of ALSS is the cryogenics section.

In the “cryo” section, Marines work machinery that makes a proper mix of both oxygen and nitrogen for pilots to breathe in case of emergency. They also check the air that is put into the aircraft’s tires to make sure the mixture of nitrogen and oxygen is correct so they are safer in case they burst during an emergency. Nitrogen tanks, checked by the cryogenics technicians, are used for suppressing fires in case of a crash landing and keeping the blades of the helicopter balanced while they are running.

Marines in the ALSS fabrication section stitch and repair parachutes, harnesses, cargo straps, and other fabric safety devices used in flight. They are just one of the many vital parts to ALSS.

All of the sections of ALSS have their own area of expertise and are vital to the mission of MAG-36 and its squadrons.



LANCE CPL. ZACHARY A. CRAWFORD

Lance Cpl Robert J. Granderson, flight equipment Marine, ALSS, MALS-36 inspects and loads an air tank on a life raft.



SGT. JENNIFER A. WOLF
Petty Officer 1st Class Florencio J. Arrogante, H&HS, MCAS Futenma, wipes the sprayed window cleaner from the window.



SGT. JENNIFER A. WOLF
Cpl. Juan J. Iturriaga, Marine Corps Base Food Services, helps with the window cleaning at the Shinseien rehabilitation/senior citizens home.

Volunteers visit, clean rehabilitation home

Sgt. Jennifer A. Wolf

Combat Correspondent

NAKAGUSUKU VILLAGE — With an armful of cleaning rags and squirt bottles at the ready, six volunteers attacked the grit and grime on the windows of a local rehabilitation home Feb. 3.

The Shinseien rehabilitation/senior citizens home houses approximately 170 residents. According to Hiroko Tomimura, community relations specialist, Camp Foster, the rehabilitation home is a temporary residence for senior citizens who have recently left a hospital and need additional time to heal before returning home.

The senior citizen portion of the home

is a place for elderly residents to live on a more permanent basis.

The residents of the senior citizens home pay for their stay according to their personal income or their families' income. The remainder of the bill is paid for by the Government of Japan. Residents in the rehabilitation side of the house pay a standard fee for their stay.

"Everyone pays the same amount and additional costs if they want extra services, such as an individual room. It is like paying for a hotel," stated Tomimura.

Assistance in helping keep the home clean is requested because the facility is understaffed, according to Tomimura. Marines, Sailors and other volunteers from Camp Foster usually help at the

Shinseien on almost a monthly basis.

"We cleaned wheel chairs on the first visit, and the second deck patio surface on the second visit," said Daniel A. Conrady, environmental protection specialist, Facilities Engineers Division, Environmental Branch, Training Section.

"This is the first time that I had an opportunity to be a part of a community relations project. I wanted to have a chance to make some sort of contact with the Okinawa community and give a helping hand to those who need it," said Cpl. Juan J. Iturriaga, property administration clerk, Base Food Service.

When local residents see the dedication of volunteers on such projects, it creates a good impression in the community.

It is especially good for the local seniors who hardly have a chance to meet the younger generations, according to Tomimura.

"Most of all, it lets them know we are not just a military machine, that we do have feelings and that we do care about them," said Conrady.

"Hopefully it will make it known that most of us here on the island have good intentions," said Petty Officer 1st Class Florencio J. Arrogante, leading petty officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Navy Supply Unit, MCAS Futenma.

"When I see the surprised looks, smiles and the old folks say 'thank you,' I really feel good," added Conrady.

Personal Services Center, changes more than its name

Sgt. Jennifer A. Wolf

Combat Correspondent

CAMP FOSTER — With the merger of several programs into the Marine Corps Community Services Division, the Personal Services Center, formerly known as the Family Service Center, has realigned many of its assistance programs and services.

One of the most noticeable changes is renaming the center. The decision came down from Headquarters Marine Corps and is based on the belief that "family" in "Family Service Center" gives the wrong connotation.

"The result was Personal Services Center because headquarters felt that would send out the message that we are here to serve and assist the single servicemember as well as those who are married," said Norman Garrett, PSC Director.

Another major change was the consolidation of the PSC services and programs into specific sections, the Operational Readiness Support Program and the Transition and Employment Assistance Program.

The ORSP covers services such as Information and Referral, Relocation Assistance Program, Personal Financial Management, Mobilization and Deployment Support, Loan Locker, Catalog Resource Center, Coupon Program, Overseas Marriage Assistance, Exceptional Family Member Program, Intercultural Programs and the Retired Activities Office. The Relocation Assistance Program includes welcome aboard packages, a computer database with information on all duty stations worldwide, a video library, stateside travel assistance, Newcomers Orientation, Smooth Move Workshop and Sponsorship Training.

"An extremely popular and important program is Personal Financial Management, which provides the Money Management workshop and Basics of Investments and First Time Home Buyers classes," said Garrett.

The program also includes unit level primary military education held at the Sergeants Course, Staff Noncommissioned Officers Academy and for any other unit that requests such training. The PMEs include classes on car buying, financial planning and credit and debt classes.

An interactive financial management course called Financially Fit, is also available on compact disc, covering financial planning, getting credit, bank relations, saving money, and managing debt.

"We have found that not emphasizing the individual counseling part of financial fitness and concentrating on education helps prevent many common problems," said Garrett.

Services that now fall under TEAP are the Transition Assistance Management Program, Family Member Employment Assistance Program, Transition Assistance Workshop, Unit Transition Counselor Training, Pre-Retirement Seminar, Veterans Affairs Representative, Employment Resource Library, computer software and on-line job services, and job fairs.

"The PSC on Okinawa is the most unique center in the Armed Forces," said Garrett. "We are the only joint service center, as the interservice agreement with Commander, Fleet Activities, Okinawa makes us a Navy and Marine Corps Center. We are the only PSC in the Marine Corps with five satellite offices, providing outreach with all of our programs and services from Camp Schwab to Kinser."

"We are here to improve the individual's and family member's understanding of the support programs and services that are available," said Garrett. "The real emphasis is to educate and empower people to deal with life in the military."

For more information on the PSC contact the Foster office at 645-2104/6, Courtney at 622-7332, Hansen at 623-4522, Kinser at 637-1628, Schwab at 625-2622 and Marine Corps Air Station Futenma at 636-2104.



OFFICIAL USMC PHOTO

The MCCS's, Personal Services Center's Relocation Program includes an Okinawan Cultural Program that teaches the traditional Tea Ceremony.

Commanding General's Cup awarded to island's top teams

Sgt. Nathaniel T. Garcia

Combat Correspondent

CAMP FOSTER — The head coaches of the volleyball, softball and bowling teams for Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-36 were presented with the island-wide Commanding General's Cup Feb. 3 by Brig. Gen. Gary H. Hughey, commanding general, Marine Corps Base.

The Commanding General's Cup is awarded every quarter to the unit with the most points. Each month, Marine Corps camps play different sports for the

Commander's Cup and points.

The Commander's Cup winners then play against other camps across the island for the championship. The unit with the most points over three months receives the Commanding General's Cup.

"Its one of the only programs we have that promotes unit participation," said Sand Jones, sports specialist, Semper Fit athletic operations, Marine Corps Community Services.

Last quarter, volleyball, softball and bowling were the three sports monitored for the Commanding General's Cup.



SGT. NATHANIEL T. GARCIA

The coaches for the volleyball, softball and bowling team receive the commanding general's trophy on behalf of Marine Aviation Logistic Squadron-36 presented by Brig. Gen. Gary H. Hughey, commanding general, Marine Corps Base.

Far East Official's Association act as judge, jury on field

Lance Cpl. Micheal O. Foley

Combat Correspondent

CAMP FOSTER — It's the bottom of the seventh inning, full count, runners on second and third, home team down by one run with one out. The batter swings and sends a slow grounder down the third-base line. As the catcher waits for the throw from the third baseman, he takes his position in front of the plate to block the incoming runner. The ball and the runner arrive at the same time the umpire has to make a close call.

This is one of the many difficult scenarios umpires may have to face, but when emotions run high among spectators as well as players, the officials of the Far East Official's Association are under pressure to make the right call.

"The biggest challenge of being an official is tightening up and making a crucial call in the heat of the game, knowing it's the right call," said Patrick A. Crowe, FEOA president. "You stay there, get your position, maintain your bearing and say, 'Coach, I know you're going to be upset, but he's out.' You know you're going to hear about it. Every time you make a call, half of the field is going to love you and half of the field is going to hate you."

The love-hate relationship with the spectators and participants may be unavoidable, but FEOA officials receive training to ensure they not only know the



STAFF SGT. JASON J. BORTZ

An FEOA umpire makes a close call at home plate at a softball tournament on Camp Kinser recently. The FEOA has officials working in six different sports at competitions across the island.

rules and make the right calls, but also don't lose their tempers when the heat of the relationship shows itself.

"You have to know the rules," said Crowe. "They have to pass a 100-question test with at least 70 percent correct, but just because they don't score well on the test doesn't mean that they will make bad officials. Some people are better test takers than other people. What I'm looking for is someone who has good mechanics and knows the rules."

It can be tough to learn all the rules

right away, but the members of the FEOA work together to bring the quality of officials in the association up and keep it up.

"The knowledge of officiating is handed down from the experienced officials to the ones just starting," said Crowe. "As an experienced official, I'm obligated to teach you what keeps me out of hot water. The experience is handed down to younger officials just like woodworking is handed down generation after generation."

This knowledge is very important for new referees, but knowing the rules and making the right calls is only part of an official's job. They are also tasked with keeping order on the field or court. Even when officials make good calls on close plays, players and coaches often times get upset at the call and make derogatory comments about the official.

"How you deal with people is important," said Crowe. "If the umpire makes a safe call and everyone in the other dugout thinks the runner was out, then he'll have an irate player or coach approach him. He needs to know how

to deal with that. If he is just quick-tempered and starts yelling back, I have to work with him. He has to be able to deal with the irate player or coach and convince them that he made the right call."

Although they need to deal with people, they also need to know when things are going too far. Crowe believes that with every close play an official will take heat, but the key is to not take anything more than that.

"When you start taking more than heat, you have to make a stand," said Crowe. "You have to say, 'coach I heard you, but it's not going to change the call.' If you keep letting things slide, you get away from the play and get into personal issues. That's where you need to draw the line."

Crowe works with new officials and is always looking for ways to make them better. He holds workshops and watches games he isn't officiating so he can show younger officials their good and bad points. He credits this follow-up training to the association's success.

The association gets a lot of positive comments about their service from different Marine Corps Community Services sports coordinators as well as participants, according to Crowe. The FEOA recently worked at the Martin Luther King Basketball Tournament here, which is one of the biggest tournaments in the Pacific, and received several positive comments.

Although the FEOA has only been in existence for a year and a half, it is establishing itself as a reputable official's association much like the Okinawa Athletic Official's Association has been for several years.

The need for officials on Okinawa is always increasing, according to Crowe. The two associations are constantly busy. Servicemembers are very active with sports and they also have a lot of children interested in youth sports. Most of the FEOA officials are youth soccer officials.

Although the FEOA is always looking for officials, Crowe warns that people need not apply if all they are looking for is a quick buck.

"You have got to want to do it," said Crowe. "We're very inexpensive and the monetary rewards are minimal. So, you have to have a desire to be an official. Without the desire, you may call a few games, but you won't be back."

If you are interested in becoming an official for the FEOA, contact Patrick A. Crowe for more information at 939-8262 or 632-6555.



STAFF SGT. JASON J. BORTZ

Referee's must pass a 100-question test in order to become an FEOA member.

Airman edges Marines in racquetball tourney

Lance Cpl. Chad C. Adams

Combat Correspondent

KADENA AIR BASE — Donovan Brown outlasted Will Henderson 11-10 in a tiebreaker to win the second annual Rollout Racquetball Tournament Feb. 5 at the Risner Fitness Center here.

The Rollout was a double-elimination tournament opened to everyone islandwide and drew a field of 13 players.

Brown, an airman from Kadena, cruised through the competition, going undefeated, winning every match on his way to the finals, including an earlier victory that sent Henderson to the loser's bracket.

With moisture forming on the court walls, Brown took advantage of a faster ball, sliding his way past Henderson, one of his toughest rivals.

"He took it easy on me," said Brown, who has more than 20 years of racquetball experience.

"Stop lying, he's the better man," fired back Henderson, a Marine from Marine Corps Air Station Futenma.

"Today was my day I guess," Brown said.

"It goes more your way than it does mine," Henderson returned.

The mutual respect, along with a little bit of trash talk, isn't a coincidence.

The two players, who many consider to be the number one and two players on the island, are not only rival competitors; they're friends who play together regularly.

Evans Dasque, a Marine from Camp Foster, who placed third in the tourna-



LANCE CPL. CHAD C. ADAMS

Will Henderson, 2nd place winner, Donovan Brown, 1st place winner, and Evans Dasque, 3rd Place winner pose together after the Rollout Racquetball Tournament.

ment, is also a member of this impromptu "racquetball club" who are proving to be a select few of the toughest and fiercest competitors on the island.

"We play all the time; at least four times a week and twice on the weekend," Henderson said.

This competition is paying off, as Dasque owns a pair of tournament cham-

pionship victories since arriving in August, and Henderson's loss to Brown was his first tournament loss on the island in the last four years.

On this day, Brown was the man, not Dasque or Henderson, even though he almost didn't compete in the tournament.

"I had to twist his arm just to get him in this one," Henderson said.

Dasque, who lost to Brown early in the tournament, fought his way through the loser's bracket before falling to Henderson in the semi-finals.

That extra game proved costly for Henderson, who seemingly ran out of gas in the hard-fought finals against Brown, who had the luxury of extra rest as he waited for his opponent.

Marine poses threat on Okinawan racquetball courts

Lance Cpl. Chad C. Adams

Combat Correspondent

CAMP FOSTER — The ball zips around the court, a blue blur of geometric angles that become hard to follow for the naked eye. But in the center, enveloped by the surrounding echoes, one man controls the chaos.

The puppet master of this courtroom is the racquetball player.

One Marine here is just that, a racquetball player, without exception — he got game.

"As we get up in the ranks, we've got to find things that motivate us," said 37-year-old Evans Dasque. "Racquetball is my motivation. It keeps me feeling young."

Dasque, who was born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, grew up in Brooklyn, NY before joining the Marine Corps in 1981. It was there that he fell in love with the game more than 12 years ago.

"It's built up my stamina, endurance and keeps me focused on my day to day mission, the mission of the Marine Corps," Dasque said. "It's a challenging game."

It's the challenge that fuels this fiery competitor as he strives to become better at his passion, pushing himself to take on the best.

"I'm always up for the challenge," Dasque said.

Hence, the myth begins. After arriving here last year, Dasque entered and won the first tournament he competed in during his first week on the island.

According to dubious reports from friend and fellow competitor Will Henderson, Dasque, after winning his first tournament, placed a challenge on the Internet, daring the very best to come and take him on. Henderson claims to have done just that by beating him after the alleged challenge.

Dasque laughed at the idea of the incriminating charge.

"He's making that up," Dasque said. "He misinterpreted that, he's been taking it personal."

The saga continues. After hearing of such allegations from friend and foe, Dasque offered up another sort of challenge.

"I will beat him," Dasque said. "I promise that. I will get one game on him."

This fighting spirit has elevated Dasque's game since arriving on the island, where he began playing regularly with Henderson and Donovan Brown, who many regard as the top two players on the island.

In a short time, Dasque has gone along way to raise his game high enough to compete with Brown and Henderson.

"I haven't beaten either of them yet, but it has been close," Dasque said.

On Saturday, Dasque took third place in the second annual Rollout Racquetball Tournament at Kadena Air Base's Risner Fitness Center. Brown and Henderson finished just ahead of him in first and second.

"I enter tournaments just for the challenge and the camaraderie with the players," Dasque said.

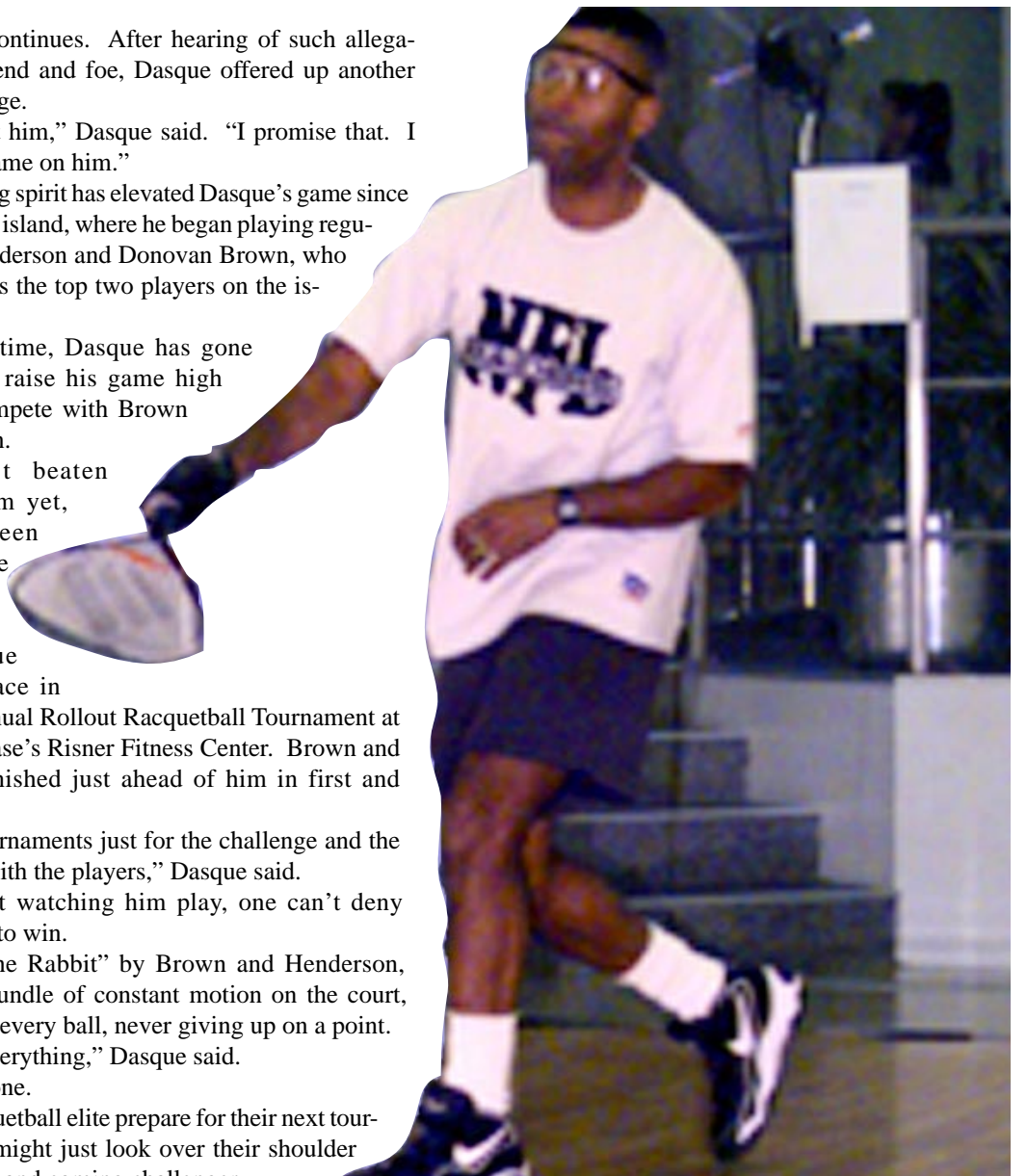
Maybe, but watching him play, one can't deny Dasque's will to win.

Dubbed "the Rabbit" by Brown and Henderson, Dasque is a bundle of constant motion on the court, running down every ball, never giving up on a point.

"I go for everything," Dasque said.

And everyone.

As the racquetball elite prepare for their next tournament, they might just look over their shoulder and find an up and coming challenger.



The Marketplace



Automobiles/ motorcycles

1988 Nissan van — JCI Jan 02, \$1,500 OBO. John, 646-6067.
1988 Toyota Corona — JCI Jun 01, \$900. 964-6504, or 0909-577-9359.
1989 Toyota — JCI Sep 00, \$900. Lisa, 926-0681.
1988 Toyota van — JCI May 00, \$1,400 OBO. 637-6075/4491.
1989 Corona — JCI Mar 01, \$700 OBO. Greg Grayson, 625-3234.
1984 Toyota van — JCI Sep 00, \$800 OBO. **1987 Mitsubishi Gallant** — JCI Jun 00, \$800 OBO. 646-8934.
1985 Toyota van — JCI Sep 00, \$850. Cpl. Johnson, 646-8389, or 645-7315.
1991 Mitsubishi Diamonte — JCI Feb 02, \$2,500. **1988 Honda CRX** — JCI Feb 02, \$2,300. Robert, 646-6097.
1987 Toyota Chaser — JCI Jul 01, \$2,000. Galendez, 623-7341.
1989 Honda — JCI Aug 00, \$1,500 OBO. Jan, 926-1772.
1991 Toyota Corolla — JCI Jan 01, \$1,800 OBO. 646-3377.
1992 Suzuki Cappuccino — Cherrie, 930-0393.
1988 Nissan van — JCI Feb 02, \$1,500. Capt. Amposta, 645-0476.
1989 Nissan Largo — JCI Jul 01, \$3,200 OBO. Pagarigan, 636-2126.
1992 Toyota Carina — JCI Aug 01, \$2,100. **1989 Honda Civic** — JCI Nov 00, \$350. 932-5062.
1990 Honda CRX — JCI Dec 01, \$900. Sgt. Carlson, 645-0793.
1987 Toyota Mark II — JCI Nov 00, \$1,200 OBO. 637-3961 or 637-5054.
1985 Toyota Super Ace — JCI Jun 01. Lt. Wahl, 623-5030 or 623 7371.
1987 Toyota Camry — JCI May 00, \$1,100 OBO. 637-2598.
1992 Toyota Carina — JCI Aug 01, \$2,100. 932-5062.
1990 300Z Twin Turbo — JCI Oct 01, \$6,800 OBO. 622-8554.
1988 Toyota Master Ace — JCI Nov 01, \$1,800 OBO. 646-8698.
1988 Toyota Camry — JCI Feb 01, \$1,200. 645-3836.
1987 Toyota Mark II — JCI Jun 00, \$800 OBO. 636-4171.
1987 Suzuki GSXR 750cc — JCI Dec 01, \$2,500. Jon, 646-8713.



Miscellaneous

Misc. — Dehumidifier, \$30; gas grill, \$75; weed whacker, \$20; wood table w/ four chairs, \$140; refrigerator, \$100. Greg Masiello, 936-3397.
Wanted — White changing table. Cassandra, 622-8785.
Misc. — 15.5TFTLCD Monitor, \$700; Cambridge Microworks speakers, \$150; Cambridge Soundworks speakers, \$75. Sgt. Brown, 622-6820.
Notebook computer — AMD K6-2 300, 24x CD, 4gb HD, 56k v.90 modem, 32m ram, \$1,300. 932-1687.
Misc. — 55ft. fence w/ locking gate, approved for base housing, \$500; King size light oak waterbed, \$700. Larry and Kathy Day, 622-8437.
Ring — 14k custom gold ring, mens size 12, \$275. Scott, 645-3051.
Misc. — Glass dining table w/ six chairs, \$500; girl's 20" and boys 16" bikes, \$50. Sue, 646-8298.
Transformers — 2000w, \$70; 1000w, \$60. 633-7100.
Free kitten — 5-months-old, has shots, litter box trained. 637-3590.
Dive watch — Aqualand Promaster, nine dives on watch, \$400. 623-7693.
Misc. — Various American and Japanese Pokemon cards including Charizard and many more. 646-2503.
Misc. — Day bed w/ mattress, \$150 OBO. 27" RCA color television, \$190 OBO. Dress Blue blouse, trouser and cover, \$75. 637-5054.
Misc. — Banshee 16MB display card. 32MB SDRAM, \$50. David, 646-3636.
Misc. — Double jogging stroller w/ handbrake, \$175. 633-6115.
Cat — Spayed, shots, free to good home. (W) 645-3221, (H) 633-9180.
Misc. — Solid wood bookcase, \$75. Small wood book cases, \$25. Single bed mattress, \$25. Office file cabinet, \$25. 25" Trinitron television, \$450. Hoover vaccum cleaner, \$40. Japanese style wash basin, \$50. NTT line telephone, \$500. Solid wood computer and office desk, \$250. Solid wood chair, \$40. 893-2656.
Misc. — Panasonic 5 CD stereo, \$200. Charity, 636-4513.
Misc. — Two Burgandy Lazy Boy recliners, \$100. 622-8327.

At a theater near you ...

Feature programs and start times are subject to change without notice! Second evening movies will vary when the program runs longer than 120 minutes.

Butler (645-3465)

Fri Play it to the Bone (R); 6:30, 9:30
Sat Anywhere But Here (PG13); 1:00
Sat Play it to the Bone (R); 6:30; 9:30
Sun Anywhere But Here (PG13); 1:00
Sun American Beauty (R); 4:00, 7:00
Mon American Beauty (R); 7:00
Tue Light it Up (R); 7:00
Wed Light it Up (R); 7:00
Thu End of Days (R); 7:00

Courtney (622-9616)

Fri Bring Out the Dead (R); 7:00
Sat Bone Collector (R); 7:00
Sun Fight Club (R); 6:00
Mon CLOSED
Tue CLOSED
Wed Pokemon (G); 2:00
Wed The Hurricane (R); 7:00
Thu CLOSED

Futenma (636-3890)

Fri Bring Out the Dead (R); 7:00
Sat Bone Collector (R); 7:00
Sun Pokemon (G); 7:30
Mon The Hurricane (R); 7:30
Tue CLOSED
Wed Play it to the Bone (R); 7:30

Hansen (623-4564)

Fri Man on the Moon (R); 6:30, 9:30
Sat Man on the Moon (R); 6:30, 9:30
Sun Man on the Moon (R); 2:00
Sun American Beauty (R); 5:30, 8:30

Mon The Insider (R); 5:30, 8:30
Tue The Insider (R); 7:00
Wed Light it Up (R); 7:00
Thu Light it Up (R); 7:00

Keystone (634-1869)

Fri The Hurricane (R); 6:30, 9:30
Sat Closed
Sun Anywhere But Here (PG13); 2:00
Sun The Hurricane (R); 5:00
Sun American Beauty (R); 9:00
Mon American Beauty (R); 7:00
Tue Light it Up (R); 7:00
Wed Light it Up (R); 7:00
Thu Play it to the Bone (R); 7:00

Kinser (637-2177)

Fri End of Days (R); 7:00
Sat Anywhere But Here (PG13); 3:00
Sat Light it Up (R); 7:00, 11:30
Sun American Beauty (R); 7:00
Mon CLOSED
Tue Anywhere But Here (PG13); 7:00
Wed American Beauty (R); 7:00
Thu Light it Up (R); 7:00

Schwab (625-2333)

Fri Bring Out the Dead (R); 7:00
Sat Fight Club (R); 6:00, 9:00
Sun Bone Collector (R); 7:00
Mon Bone Collector (R); 7:00
Tue Fight Club (R); 7:00
Wed Double Jeopardy (R); 7:00
Thu American Beauty (R); 7:00

Ads appearing in the Okinawa Marine do so as a free service to active duty military, their dependents and DoD employees. Ads are restricted to personal property or service of incidental exchange. **Ads run on a space-available basis and must be resubmitted each week.** The deadline for ads is **noon, Fridays, space permitting.** The Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit ads to fit available space. Please include your name and the phone number you wish published. The Okinawa Marine makes every effort to ensure accuracy, but assumes no responsibility for services offered in ads. Submit ads by faxing to 645-3803, Mon.-Fri., or send an e-mail to barnesej@mcbbutler.usmc.mil